Preface Kasit Piromya, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand
In this era of globalization, the world has become smaller. Communication occurs at the speed of light and the movement of people seems to happen in the blink of an eye. As borders become ever more porous, transnational issues including migration have become the focus of many countries' foreign policy.

Thailand, as a country of origin, transit, and final destination, fully recognizes the problems posed by irregular movement of people, including human trafficking. Our commitment to combat trafficking in persons is manifested in the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons Act B.E. 2551 (2008), which provides a comprehensive approach in addressing this issue. The prime minister and key members of the Cabinet are actively engaged in overseeing the implementation of this Act in a people-centered manner.

As part of our efforts to enhance international cooperation and awareness of this issue, Thailand is actively engaged in several initiatives at the global, regional, sub-regional, and bilateral levels to protect migrant workers from exploitation as well as promote their well-being and legal labor migration.

As a result of the long-standing ties and close collaboration on labor and migration-related issues between Thailand and Japan, there are presently nearly 20,000 Thai migrant workers in Japan. As migrant workers have proven to be vulnerable to exploitation by unauthorized agents or human traffickers, I am happy that the Governments of Thailand and Japan are working closely to tackle the issue of human trafficking, particularly through the Japan-Thailand Joint Task Force on Counter Trafficking in Persons (JT-CTP) established in 2006, to enable comprehensive cooperation on prevention, law enforcement, and protection.
On this occasion, I wish to extend my congratulations on the launch of the *Asian Review* 2011, which compiles studies and academic opinions regarding labor migration and trafficking in persons from Thailand to Japan. The launch of this Review is a clear demonstration of awareness of this serious issue, and will undoubtedly contribute greatly to cooperation between Thailand and Japan on migration-related issues.